

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNGA, EGEN

SUBJECT: PREPARATIONS FOR THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION

REF: STATE 46267

VIENNA FOR US MISSION TO UNIDO

1. MINISTER SYKES OF UK EMBASSY CALLED ON IO ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM, APRIL 3, TO GIVE BRITISH REPLY TO BUFFUM PRESENTATION REPORTED IN REFTEL. SYKES SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THERE HAD BEEN SOME SMALL SIGNS IN EARLIER INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS THIS YEAR, THAT A FEW OF THE MODERATES OF THE GROUP OF 77 FAVORED TRYING FOR AN AGREE-
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MENT ON A MODEST RANGE OF SUBJECTS RATHER THAN TRYING TO

BULLDOZE THROUGH AN UNREALISTIC ACROSS THE BOARD PROGRAM, IN THE LIMA UNIDO MEETING THEY FOLLOWED THE FAMILIAR HARD LINE APPROACH UNDER ALGERIAN LEADERSHIP. THE UK WAS INTERESTED IN WHICH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THE US CONSIDERED RELATIVELY FLEXIBLE AND IT PLANNED TO USE APRIL 29 COMMONWEALTH MEETING TO URGE MODERATION ON DEVELOPING COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES.

2. SYKES SAID BRITISH PREPARATIONS FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION WERE FAIRLY WELL ADVANCED ON THE QUESTION OF AN INITIATIVE BY THE PRIME MINISTER ON COMMODITIES AT APRIL 29 KINGSTON COMMONWEALTH MEETING. THIS HAD TAKEN PRECEDENCE OVER WIDER QUESTIONS OF POLICY TOWARD NIEO ISSUES AND THEY HOPED TO HAVE A CONTRIBUTION AROUND THE MIDDLE OF APRIL. FOOD AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY MIGHT OFFER FRUITFUL AREAS FOR PROGRESS. IT MIGHT BE NECESSARY TO DISCUSS ENERGY. THIS DEPENDED UPON PROGRESS IN THE CONSUMER/PRODUCER FORUM BUT LONDON PREFERS TO KEEP IT SEPARATE. THEY HAD NO CLEAR IDEAS CONCERNING STRUCTURAL CHANGES WITHIN THE UN SYSTEM BUT THEY WERE WORKING ON IT BECAUSE IT WAS ON THE AGENDA.

3. SYKES OUTLINED AGAIN THE 3-TIER APPROACH PUT FORWARD BY THE BRITISH AT THE PREPCOM FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION. ON MODALITIES, HE HOPED THAT THE USEFUL CONTACTS ESTABLISHED IN NEW YORK WOULD CONTINUE. IN ORDER NOT TO COMPLICATE RELATIONS WITH THE EC-9 THEY PREFERRED TO CONTINUE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE US BILATERALLY FOR THE TIME BEING, BUT THEY WOULD WANT TO BROADEN CONSULTATIONS WHEN THEIR IDEAS WERE MORE MATURE.

4. SYKES REQUESTED BUFFUM'S REACTION TO SIR DONALD MAITLAND'S PROPOSED VISIT TO WASHINGTON IN MID-APRIL FOR INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS IN WHICH MACKENZIE OF UKUN NEW YORK MIGHT BE INCLUDED. BUFFUM SAID WE WARMLY WELCOMED THE MAITLAND VISIT AND HOPED FOR A SUBSTANTIVE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS.

5. WITH REFERENCE TO THE FIRST TIER OF THE BRITISH 3-TIER APPROACH, THE GENERAL STATEMENT, BUFFUM ASKED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IF THEY HAD IN MIND A BROAD POLICY STATEMENT WHICH WOULD ARTICULATE DC VIEWS AS A COUNTER TO THE NIEO. SYKES SAID IT WAS NOT INTENDED TO BE A CONFRONTATIONAL STATEMENT BUT ONE WHICH COULD BE ACCEPTED BY ALL MEMBERS EXCEPT THE HARDEST LINE LDCS. IT WOULD BE SOMETHING POSITIVE TO PUT FORWARD RATHER THAN RESPONDING IN THE USUAL NEGATIVE FASHION. BUFFUM SAID THAT IT WAS A USEFUL IDEA AND THAT WE WERE THINKING ALONG SIMILAR

LINES AND SHOULD COMPARE NOTES.

6. BUFFUM ASKED HOW BRITISH THINKING WAS DEVELOPING ON
CONSULTATIONS WITH THE LDCS IN LATE APRIL. SYKES REPLIED
THAT THEY WOULD START WITH THE MOST SENSIBLE AND HOW
THEY WOULD GO FORWARD FROM THERE WOULD DEPEND ON THE
INITIAL REACTIONS OF THE LDCS. INGERSOLL

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